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REMARKS**I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 2 – 3, 5 – 6, 9, 14 – 15, 17 – 18, and 20 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 7 – 8, 10 – 13, 16, and 19 have been cancelled. Claims 2 – 3, 5 – 6, 14 – 15, and 17 – 18 have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found in the original claims. No new matter has been added.

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The Office has indicated that claims 3, 9, 15, and 20 would be allowable if rewritten to correct dependency.

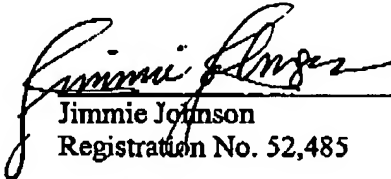
Claim 3 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which original claim 3 was dependent. Claim 15 has also been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 13, upon which original claim 15 was dependent. In addition, claims 2, 5 – 6, 14 – 15, and 17 – 18 have been amended to depend from an allowable base claim, and thus are allowable as well.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the proposed claim amendments, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early notice thereof is earnestly solicited. The Office is invited to contact the undersigned counsel in order to further the prosecution of this application in any way.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/18/06


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